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THE LIFE, AND CHARACTER OF CHARLES RATCLIFFE, Esq;

Who was Beheaded on TOWER-HILL, on MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1746

Containing, an Account, from his Birth in *Northumberland*, to the Time of his EXECUTION.

Collected from the best ACCOUNTS publish'd.

To which are added, The Dying Words of the late Earl of *Derwentwater*, and other Gentlemen who suffered for High Treason, in the Year 1715-16.

LONDON:

Printed for J. STANTON, in *Shorts-Gardens*.

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The LIFE, of CHARLES RATCLIFFE, &c.

THOSE Principles which we imbibe in our early Years become, in our adult Age, ſo much interwoven in our Nature, that they acquire the Force of natural Affections, govern our Actions, and ſway our Determinations with ſuch Violence, that our Reaſon and Underſtanding, however improved, is unable to combat them: We find the Roots of Error ſo deeply grafted in our Immagination, and have been ſo long accuſtomed to be governed by thoſe acquired Notions, that we forget the Time when we adopted them; and as we cannot trace their Originals in our Memory, we fancy theſe Opinions innate, and accuſtom ourſelves to look upon them as ſo many ſelf-evident Propoſitions; and therefore are never at the Trouble of employing our reaſoning Faculty about enquiring into the Truth of them, till Habit has become ſo ſtrong, and our Minds taken ſuch a tenacious Bent that way, that if we would, we find the Task too difficult to undertake; and therefore continue to go on in the ſame Tract of Error and Deluſion, till ſome unhappy Cataſtrophe awakens us from our Dreams, takes the Flim of Prejudice from our Eyes, and too late convinces us that we have ſpent our Lives in Folly, and been conducted in the moſt ſerious Concerns of Life by Principles of founded in Error and Falſhood.

Were it in Trifles that we allowed ourſelves to be governed by the Prejudice of Education, neither ourſelves nor Society would have ſo much reaſon to bewail the Misfortune; but it is the Fate of moſt Men, that they can uſe their Reaſon and Underſtanding in Things of leſs Moment to themſelves and the Common-Wealth. In the ordinary Affairs of Life, they ſoon get the Better of their childiſh Notions; but in the two grand Concerns of Mankind, Religion and Politicks, they are tenacious of Opinions taken up upon the ſlighteſt Grounds, and can never with any Patience prevail on themſelves to call thoſe Doctrines into Queſtion, which they

they have received from their Nurſes or Anceſtors; but eſpouſe them without reaſoning, and ſwallow them by wholeſale, without the leaſt Reſervation to alter them, upon better and more mature Conſiderations.

Thus State and Religious Hereſies become hereditary, and are handed down from Father to Son, gathering Strength like a Snow-Ball as they run through ſeveral Deſcents: Some Men think it a Crime to differ from their Anceſtors in their Notions of Religion and Government, and adminiſter to the Errors in their Creed, with as much Zeal and Earneſtneſs as they do to their Will, that conveys them their Eſtate.

It is eaſy to ſee the Folly of theſe Proceedings, yet there is no Misfortune ſo general, as this of Taking up Doctrines upon Truſt, and the Faith of our Forefathers. This Opinion, that it is a Diſhonour to differ from the Foibles of our Family, or that it is an Honour to die in the ſame faith with thoſe who gave us Being, is the ſtrongeſt Bulwark of Error; it is this alone that propagates Error, and renders Falſhood and Folly laſting as well as general; is is this that makes Men indolent in uſing their Underſtanding in theſe weighty Concerns, and Involves the Public, and their private Families, in all the Confuſion of Civil-War and Diſcord.

Were every Man to Judge for himſelf, and examine the Truth of every religious and political Maxim, by the Rules of Truth, and right Reaſon, it is impoſſible that there could be ſo many Differences in theſe grand Subjects, as at preſent perplex this Iſland.

Though all men do not think alike, nor reaſon with the ſame Force of Argument upon theſe Subjects; yet, if we can take Prejudice of Education out of the Scale, upon mature Conſideration we ſhall find that Men would not differ ſo much in their Principles, as they do now while they are under that Byaſs.

Generally ſpeaking, Men have learned, even in the Nurſery, a Set

Set of Notions which in their Nonage they have been taught to look upon as the ſacred Dictates of Reaſon; they endeavour, in all future Enquiries, to ſquare their Judgment by that Hypotheſis: and are more anxious to ſupport theſe Doctrines than Truth itſelf. But were they to ſuppoſe theſe Doctrines falſe, or at leaſt dubious, till they had ſquared them by Truth and their informed Reaſon, they would often find Cauſe to reject them, and by that Means prevent many Calamities that attend the whole Courſe of their Lives.

How unhappy is it for ſome, if not moſt of the Jacobites of this Iſland, that they will not be at the Trouble of making this important Enquiry into the Truth of their political Principles; but they take them from their unhappy Forefathers, or they have ſwallowed the Syboleth of a Party, with whom it has been their Misfortunes moſtly to converſe: Were you to ask moſt of them the Reaſon of their Principles, they can give you no better Account of them, than they happened to be bred up in theſe Principles, and are reſolved to die in them. Had they been bred up in Turkey, they had been Mahometans by the ſame Rule; and tho' they are now ſuch ſtrong Sticklers for abſolute Monarchy, yet if it had been their Fate to have been born in Venice, Holland or any other Republican Government, their Heads would be then as full of Limitations and Liberty, as they are now ſtuffed with loyal Prerogative and arbitrary Power.

What, or wherein can conſiſt the Honour of a Man's dying for Principles, which he cannot defend by the leaſt Arguments drawn from Reaſon, or the Principles of ſound Policy? Or to become Martyr to a Cauſe, into which his Nurſe attached him when a Child? This is Enthuſiaſm in Politicks, is the Effect only of a warm Heart and weak Head, ſince nothing but Strength of Imagination, a groundleſs Perſwaſion, and a kind of political implicit Faith is its Foundation.

There is not a ſtronger Inſtance of this Force of Education, of this political Infatuation, this Zeal without Grounds, than the unhappy

happy Mr. Ratcliffe, who has juſtly ſuffered according to his Sentence for High Treaſon.

To this Scource he might attribute all the Misfortunes of his Family, all the Crimes they have been guilty of as acceſſary to the unnatural Rebellion, which has ſtruck at the very Vitals of our Conſtitution: Yet ſo ſtrong is this Force, ſo prevalent is Habit, that even the near Approach of Death in an advanced Age could not ſhake the Empire Error had got in his Soul. He thought he acted, and ſpoke as if no Danger was near him, and ſeemed prepared to ſuffer his Fate to approach him without the leaſt Change in his Sentiments, or Conviction of his Error.

CHARLES RATCLIFFE, Eſq; is deſcended of an antient Family in Northumberland, was younger Brother to the late James Earl of Derwentwater, who was beheaded in the Year 1716, for traiterouſly conſpiring the Death of his Majeſty King George I. Both he and his Brother had an Education ſuitable to their high Birth; and as the Religion they were brought up in was the ſame, that is, the Romiſh it's no Wonder that they imbib'd the ſame Principles of Government, which are, and always will be oppoſite to thoſe on which the preſent happy Eſtabliſhment is founded.

The Family of Derwentwater can boaſt as high a Deſcent as moſt Families in the Kingdom, and ſeveral Branches of it make a ſhining Figure in Hiſtory. 'Tis true none of them were advanc'd to the Dignity of the Peerage, before Sir Francies Ratcliffe, Grandfather of James the late Earl who was created Earl of Derwentwater by King Charles II. upon his marrying the Lady Mary Tudor, the natural Daughter of that Prince, by Miſtreſs Davis. This Alliance to the Royal Blood, gave them a Title to match with the nobleſt Families in the Kingdom; and was likewiſe the Occaſion of that ſtrict Attachment which the ſeveral Branches of the Derwentwater Familly have inviolably preſerv'd for the Line of Stuarts ever ſince.

But beſides this natural Relation between the Family of Derwentwater

and

and that of the Stuarts, which alone might be ſufficient to create Affection and Friendſhip between them, the late Earl had another Inducement, which alone might be powerful enough to prevail with him, to take the Part he did in that unhappy Rebellion for which he ſuffer'd; and that is, he had the Chief Part of his Education with the Pretender at St. Germains; which no doubt, contributed very much to cement the natural Affinity between the two Families.

Charles, the Earl's Brother, had likewiſe his Education in France, and under the Tuition of Romiſh Prieſts, who inſtill'd into him thoſe Principles, which have a natural Tendency to the Subverſion of the Britiſh Conſtitution both in Church and State. From them he imbib'd an implacable Enmity to the Prince on the Throne, and the Proteſtant Religion which was by Law eſtabliſh'd in the Kingdom. By theſe Prieſts he was taught, to call all thoſe Hereticks who diſſented from the Church of Rome, and inſtructed to believe, that the deſtroying ſuch with Fire and Sword, and all Manner of Cruelties, was ſo far from being a Sin, that it alone would certainly entitle him of Heaven, altho' he ſhould be guilty of the moſt enormous Crimes that ever blacken'd an Offender. If then Mr. Ratcliffe, had ſuch a wrong Biaſs given him in his Education, at a Time when his Mind was, as it were, a perfect Blank, and capable of receiving any Impreſſion, what Wonder is it, that he retain'd thoſe Principles, and acted under their Influence thro' the whole Courſe of his Life?

The late Earl of Derwentwater and his Brother Charles were ſo ſtrongly attach'd to the Pretender's Party, that their advice or Conſent was not ſo much as ask'd in thoſe Conſultations that were held among the Diſaffected previous to the Rebellion; neither did the Party think it neceſſary, becauſe they were always ſure of them, whenever they ſhou'd come to action.

However, in this they overſhot themſelves a little in their Politicks. For had they given the Earl and his Brother timely Notice of their intended Inſurrection, theſe Gentlemen might have brought a powerful Force into the Field, being greatly eſteem'd and reſpected by all the Gentlemen round the Country:

Whereas

Whereas it's notorious that they join'd the Rebels, attended only by their menial Servants, and ſome few Gentlemen of the Country, who happen'd to be in their Company when they form'd the Reſolution of engaging in that unnatural Rebellion.

I cannot forbear here gratifying the Reader with the Character of the late Earl of Derwentwater, as drawn by the Rev. Mr. Patton, Author of the Hiſtory of that Rebellion. He ſays, "It was thought, that this Lord did not join either ſo heartily or ſo premeditately in this Affair as was expected; for there is no doubt but he might have brought far greater Numbers into the Field than he did; the Great Eſtate he poſſeſſed, the Money he could command, his Intereſt among the Gentlemen, and which is above all, his being ſo well belov'd as he was, could not have fail'd to have procur'd him many Hundreds of Followers more than he had, if he had thought fit; for his Concerns in the Lead-mines of Aſton-Moor were very conſiderable, where ſeveral Hundreds of Men were employ'd under him, and got their Bread from him whom, there is no Doubt, he might eaſily have engaged: Beſides, this, the Sweetneſs of his Diſpoſition, in which he had few Equals, had ſo ſecur'd him the Affection of all his Tenants, Neighbours, and Dependants, that Multitudes would have liv'd and dy'd with him.

The Truth is, he was a Man formed by Nature to be generally beloved; for he was of ſo general a Beneficence, that he ſeem'd to live for others. As he liv'd among his own People, there he ſpent his Eſtate, and continually did Offices of Kindneſs and Good-neighbourhood to every Body, as Opportunity offer'd. He kept a Houſe of generous Hoſpitality and noble Entertainment, which few in that Country do, and none came up to. He was very charitable to poor and diſtreſſed Families on all Occaſions, whether known to him or not, and whether Papiſt or Proteſtant. His Fate is ſenſibly felt by a great many, who had no Kindneſs for the Cauſe he died in, and who heartily wiſh'd he had not forwarded his own Ruin, and their Loſs, by his Indiſcretion, in that mad, as well as wicked Undertaking."

Pity

Pity it is that ſo good a Man ſhould involve himſelf in ſuch an unfortunate Expedition. Which indeed, might and would have been prevented, had not the Deſign of the then Miniſtry took Wind too ſoon. They knew that the Earl had a very large Intereſt, and was exceedingly beloved in the Country, where he liv'd; they knew too what his Religion and Principles were, and were ſenſible that if he ſhould take Arms he would draw a Part of the Country after him: To prevent which they thought proper to iſſue out their Warrant, for the Apprehenſion of him and his Brother; which would have effectually put a ſtop to their Joining with the Rebels: But the affair being known in the Secretary's Office, one of the Clerks, whether out of Affection to the Earl, or for what other Cauſe, is not known, very officiouſly communicated the Secret to ſome of the Earl's Friends here in London, who immediately gave him Notice of it.

This determin'd him to join the Rebels with all Speed, and was the principal Reaſon why he took ſo few of his Followers with him. Happy had it been for him, happy for his Lady, and happy for his Family, had he ſtaid at Home, and ſuffer'd himſelf to be withheld from that fatal Expedition.

Mr. Ratcliffe, the Earl's Brother, was then about two and twenty Years of Age, full of Spirit and Courage, bold and daring even to a Raſhneſs, and was generally the firſt to offer himſelf to go upon the moſt hazardous Exterprizes. He ſeem'd to ſet no Value upon his Life where Honour was to be won, or Service to be perform'd. This intrepid Behaviour, which he was forward to manifeſt on all Occaſions, endear'd him very much to the Chiefs of the Rebels, and therefore the Earl gave him the Command of his Troops, and Captain Shaftoe commanded under him.

As Mr. Ratcliffe had never been in an Army before, and conſequently knew nothing of military Diſcipline, it can't be ſuppoſed that he was preſently ſo expert in the Art of War as older

Officers, who had ſerv'd in ſeveral Campaigns before. But what he wanted in Experience and Knwledge, he made good in Bravery and in animating his Men to great Exploits.

But before we enter upon Action, it will be neceſſary for the Reader to keep Company with the Earl and his Brother in their Journey from Place to Place, till they had join'd their Friends in the North.

Mr. Forſter, who had likewiſe fled from his Houſe, on a Notice that was given, that a Warrant was iſſued from the Secretary's Office to take him, finding that he could not hide himſelf long in any Place of Safety, ſent out Meſſengers to his Friends of the Party, to meet him in Northumberland; where being met they came to a Reſolution to muſter up all the Forces they could and to appear in Arms. Purſuant to this Reſolution, Notice was given to all their Friends to meet *Oct.* 6. at a Place call'd Greemrig; and about twenty Gentlemen repair'd to the Rendezvous; but without ſtaying there they rode to the Top of a Hill called the Waterfalls; from whence they ſoon diſcover'd the Earl of Derwentwater and his Brother, with their Company, who came that Morning from the Earl's Seat at Dilſton.

In coming from thence, their Way lying thro' the Town of Corbrige, they all drew their Swords, and in that Order march'd thro' it. From thence they proceeded to the Seat of Mr. Errington, where they halted, and the Earl was join'd by ſeveral other Gentlemen, and ſo proceeded in a Body to the Place appointed, for their Rendezvous, where the fore-mentioned Company met them.

Their Company now conſiſted of about 60 Horſe, moſt of them Gentlemen, with their Attendants. They went forwards towards the River Coquett, to a Place call'd Plainfield, where they were joined by ſeveral others. From thence they march'd on to Rothbury, and from thence to Warkworth, a ſmall Town upon the Sea-coaſt, their Number ſtill increaſing as they march'd.

Here

Here they proclaim'd the Pretender, which was done by Mr. Forſter in Diſguiſe, and was the firſt Place in England where the Pretender was proclaim'd.

October 10. They came to Morpeth, where they were join'd by 60 Scots Horſe; ſo that now they were 300 ſtrong: Here they prepar'd to march to Newcaſtle; in order to which the Earl of Dewentwater order'd his Brother Mr. Ratcliffe to take a Party of Horſe, and go and ſeize the Poſt at Felton Bridge; which he did without any Loſs, for indeed, as yet, no Body did oppoſe them. However, the Rebels were diſappointed in their Deſign upon Newcaſtle: But the Townſmen taken the Alarm, arm'd, and prepar'd for their Defence; which the Rebels being inform'd of, they turn'd off, and march'd to Hexhum, and were joined by ſome more Scots Horſe.

While they lay at Hexham, they had information that General Carpenter, at the Head of a conſiderable Body, was come out in Purſuit of them, and was preparing to attack them. Upon which a Council of War was held, and Mr. Ratcliffe propoſs'd to march out and fight them, before they had recover'd themſelves from their long Marches, which they had been obliged to make.

But the other Leaders did not think this adviſable; becauſe moſt of their Men were raw and unexperience'd, and had never yet fac'd an Enemy: Whereas the King's Forces were diſciplin'd Troops, and had a brave General at their Head, who knew his Buſineſs as well as any Man alive; and therefore, for the preſent it was better to avoid fighting, till they were reinforced by the Forces which they expected every Day to join them; ſince a Miſcarriage at the Beginning wou'd certainly prove fatal to the whole Undertaking.

This Council was folow'd; and they Reſolv'd to march forward to meet the Forces that were coming to join them from Scotland, headed by their Leaders the Lords Kenmure, Nithſdale

Carnwarth, and Wintoun, and were advanced as far as Rothbury. Here the Engliſh and Scots Rebels join'd their Forces, and march-'d directly from thence to Wooller in Northumberland. Here it was they reſolv'd to march for Scotland, where they were aſſured their Friends were very numerous. Accordingly they paſs'd the Tweed, and came to Kelſo.

Here they muſter'd their Forces, and found them to amount to about 1400; and they ſtaid in this Town about five Days; but hearing that General Carpenter was come with his Forces as far as Wooller, and intended immediately to face Kelſo, a Council of War was called, in order ſeriouſly to conſider what Courſe they ſhould take.

The Lord Wintoun was for marching away into the Weſt of Scotland, and gave ſeveral ſubſtantial Reaſons for it: But the Engliſh imagining that half the People in the Country would riſe as ſoon as ever they ſhould ſee a Standard erected for the Pretender, rejected this Advice, and the Majority of Voices being on their Side, it was reſolv'd to march back into England.

Mr. Ratcliffe then propos'd to repaſs the Tweed, and attack the King's Forces, ſince, at that Juncture, they had a manifeſt Advantage from the Weakneſs, and Wearineſs of General Carpenter's Men, who were indeed extreamely fatigued, and their whole Complement did not conſiſt of above 500 Men; whereof two Regiments of Dragoons were new raiſed, and had never ſeen any Service.

This Advice was bold, and agreeable to Mr. Ratcliffe's fiery and ſpirited Temper, and if it had been follow'd, it's very probable the King's Troops would have been worſted, conſidering how much they were fatigued, and were not half the Number of the Rebels. But neither was this Advice followed, tho' it ſeem'd the beſt that could be given at that Time. But there was a Fatality that attended all their Counſels, for they could never agree to any one Thing that tended to their Advantage.

How-

However, it was thought neceſſary to decamp from Kelſo, which they did, and taking a little to the Right marched to Jedburgh. Being arrived here, Word was brought them, that General Carpenter had fallen upon their Foot which had not yet reach'd the Town.

This put them into the utmoſt Conſternation; however, Mr. Ratcliffe mounted his Horſe, and bid them who had any Courage left to follow him. Upon which they all mounted likewiſe and gallop'd away to relieve their Friends: But as it happen'd, there was no occaſion, it being a Miſtake, occaſion'd by another Party of their own Men, who had taken a different Route.

While they lay at Jedburgh, they perceiv'd that an Opportunity offered of getting the Start of General Carpenter by three Days March. Upon Which a conſultation was held, and the Engliſh Gentlemen earneſtly preſs'd, and it was accordingly reſolved, to croſs the Mountains, and march for England. This Reſolution however, had like to have been attended with fatal Conſequences; for the Highlanders could not be perſuaded to croſs the Borders; which oblig'd them to alter their Reſolution.

From Jebburgh they march'd to Hawick, a ſmall Town belonging to the Dutcheſs of Bucclugh, or whoſe Houſe the Lord Derwentwater and his Brother, the unfortunate Mr. Charles Ratcliffe, with ſeveral others of the Chiefs took up their Quarters.

Mr. Ratcliffe, who had never ſeen much of the World before, fancied himſelf now upon his Travels; and accordingly it was a great Part of his Amuſement to make Obſervations on whatever he met with that deſerved his Notice; at every Town he came to, he enquired what were the moſt remarkable Cuſtoms and Curioſities of the Place; what Monuments of famous Men or Actions, or other noted Pieces of Antiquity, were remaining among

among them; and whatever Informations he could get of this Kind, he took down in his Book.

Nor was he leſs curious in obſerving the various Tempers and Paſſions of Men, as well in Council as in the Field, in Action as in Converſation. When any falſe Alarm was given, that the King's Forces were at Hand and ready to fall upon them, he was ſure to take particular Notice of the Countenances of the Officers about him, when they were ordered to head their Corps and march againſt the Enemy. Some of them he obſerv'd were cover'd with Paleneſs, and look'd as if the Men were already half dead; while others he ſaw flushing with Fire and Fury, or ſettled in a compoſed Sternneſs; theſe he always found to be the beſt Soldiers in the Time of real Action.

Upon their marching to Hawick, the Highlanders ſtill ſuppoſing that they were going for England, again mutinied, ſeperated themſelves, and went to the Top of a riſing Ground, where they reſted their Arms, and declar'd they would not ſtir a Step farther; but would go with the Lord Wintoun, to the Weſt of Scotland; Join the Clans there, and either croſs the Forth above Stirling or ſend Word to the Earl of Mar, that they would fall upon the Duke of Argyle's Rear, whilſt he attack'd him in Front; which if they had done, it's very poſſible they would have been too hard for the Duke, who was then but weak in Forces.

Mr. Ratcliffe thought theſe Propoſals of the Highlanders were too juſt and reaſonable to be rejected, without examining into the Truth of them, and therefore he deſired to hear whatever would be objected againſt them; and when every one had given his Opinion, and finding that all the Engliſh Officers were reſolved to march into England, and that their Reaſons for it were too weak to ballance thoſe given by the Highlanders for their March into Scotland; he ſided with the latter, and declar'd it as his Opinion, that they ſhould be better able to ſerve the Cauſe by joining the Highlanders in their propoſed March to the Weſt of Scotland, than by continuing their Route to England, where it was uncertain what Aſſiſtance they ſhould have from their Friends, many of whom tho' he knew were hearty in the Cauſe, yet were fearful of appearing in it, till they ſaw ſome Probability of its ſucceeding; and that others, who were

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of Fortune, tho' they were hearty well wiſhers to the Cauſe, yet having too much to riſque, did not care publickly to embark in it, till they had ſome rational Grounds to hope for Succeſs.

That therefore he thought, that their beſt Way would be, to ſtrike a bold Stroke in Scotland, and endeavour to make a complete Conqueſt of that Kingdom; which if it could be done (and he ſaw no mighty Obſtruction that lay in the Way) they ſhould be then able to raiſe powerful Armies, and ſend them into England, and be ready to ſuccour them with any Supplies, and ſhould always be in a Place of Retreat in Caſe any Diſaſter ſhould befal their Army.

Whereas, in England, if they ſhould happen to meet with a Rebuff, they ſhould be entirely ruin'd, having no Reſource, or any Means of retrieving a Misfortune of this Kind.

This ſeem'd to be wholeſome Advice; but the Leaders were ſo infatuated, that they would hearken to nothing that contradicted the Reſolution of going back to England.

When Mr. Ratcliffe perceiv'd that whatever he could ſay would be to no Purpoſe, he begg'd of them to give him only an hundred Horſe, and with them he would take his Fortune along with the Highlanders. But this could not be granted, becauſe it would weaken their Forces too much, diſcourage their Friends from joining them, and give their Enemies an Opportunity to cruſh them before they ſhould be able to make Head againſt them.

Several Councils and Conſultations were held about this Affair of the Highlanders, and many Meſſages paſſed to and fro between them; at laſt the Highlanders agreed to ſtay with them ſo long as they continued on the North Side the Tweed, but were determin'd to go no further than the Borders.

After they had march'd about from Place to Place for ſome Time, the Engliſh Gentlemen at laſt grew poſitive for an Attempt upon

upon England, having, they ſaid, receiv'd Letters from Lancaſhire, inviting them thither, and aſſuring them, that there would be a general Inſurrection upon their appearing, and that 20,000 Men would immediately join them. Whether they had Expreſſes or no, was never certainly known; but they affirmed it to the Army, and urged the Advantages of a ſpeedy March into England with ſuch Vehemence, that they turned the Scale.

But Mr. Ratcliffe always proteſted againſt it, as a Meaſure which would certainly be their Ruin, as indeed it prov'd. Upon which about 500 Highlanders left them, and the Earl of Wintoun went off likewiſe with a good part of his Troop, tho' he afterwards rejoin'd them.

But notwithſtanding all theſe Diſcouragements, they were not diſhearten'd, but ſtill continued in their Reſolution of marching for England with ſuch of their Forces as were willing to bear them Company. It is not neceſſary for our Purpoſe, to give a Particular Detail of their daily Marches and Stages till their Arrival in Lancaſhire, ſince nothing of Conſequence happen'd all the Way; wherein Mr. Ratcliffe had any Concern.

On the 10th of November they came to Preſton, where they proclaim'd the Pretender, and were join'd by a great many Gentlemen, with their Tenants, Servants, and Attendants, but all Papiſts. When the Alarm was given that the King's Forces were coming to attack them, and were but a few Miles off, Mr. Farquarſon, at the Head of a Body of the Rebels, went out of Town as far as Ribble Bridge, where they poſted themſelves, to hinder the King's Forces from proceeding any farther; but were ſoon called off, and the Paſſage was left free for General Wills and his Troops to paſs up to the Town.

In the mean Time, the Rebels in the Town prepared for a reſolute Defence. The Gentlemen Voluntiers were drawn up in the Churchyard, under the Command of the Lord Derwentwater and his Brother Mr. Ratcliffe. Both of them behav'd with the greateſt

greateſt Intrepidity, both of them animating their Men both by Words and Example, to behave with Courage ſuitable to the emergent Occaſion, and they maintain'd their Ground a great while with the utmoſt Bravery; and indeed they behav'd ſo well, that they oblig'd the King's Forces to retire. During the whole Action, Mr. Ratcliffe was in the Midſt of the Fire, and expos'd to as much Danger as the meaneſt Soldier then upon Duty.

But the Rebels being now inveſted on all Sides, ſeveral of their Chiefs Prevail'd on Mr. Forſter to propoſe a Capitulation; which the Highlanders oppos'd, and Mr. Ratcliffe proteſted againſt, and ſaid that he had rather die with his Sword in his Hand, like a Man of Honour, than be dragg'd like a Felon to the Gallows, and to be there Hang'd like a Dog. But the Majority being againſt him, he was oblig'd to ſubmit with the reſt.

He was afterwards brought to London with many more of the Rebel Chiefs; the Lords were committed to the Tower, and he with others to Newgate, on the 8th of May 1716, Mr. Ratcliffe was arraign'd at the Exchequer Bar at Weſtminſter, for High Treaſon, to which he pleaded not guilty. On the 18th of the ſame Month, he was brought their again, and tried upon the Indictment, and having but little to ſay in his Defence, he was found Guilty.

In a few Days after, he with eleven more of the Chiefs were carried to Weſtminſter in ſix Coaches, in order to have Sentence of Death paſs'd upon them. It deſerves Remark, and was at that time particularly taken Notice of, that when the Coach which Mr. Ratcliffe was in, came into Fleet-Street, his Majeſty King George I. was then paſſing along in his Coach, being then going to Hanover for the firſt Time after his Aſcenſion to the Throne.

This oblig'd Mr. Ratcliffe's Coach to ſtop; which happening oppoſite to a Diſtiller's Shop, the third Door on the Right Hand

towards Temple-Bar, he call'd for half a Pint of Anniſeed, which himſelf, his Fellow-Priſoner, and a Servant of Newgate, drank, and then proceeded to Weſtminſter, where Sentence of Death was pronounced upon him.

When he receiv'd the ordinary Sentence, he was not in the leaſt caſt down; but behaved with as much Unconcern, as if it had been a Matter of the ſmalleſt Moment. It is ſaid, that one of his Fellow-Priſoners, with a very prominent Belly, being asked if he had nothing to offer in arreſt of Judgment, Mr. Ratcliffe, who ſtood next him, whiſpered him in the Ear ſo loud, as it might be heard by the Byſtanders, Damn you (ſays he) plead your Belly, many have got off that had not ſo large an Excuſe.

He was ſeveral Times reſpited, and perhaps might have been pardon'd but not caring to truſt to an Event ſo doubtful, began to entertain Thoughts of making his Eſcape, which he actually, effected, with thirteen others in the following Manner.

The Day appointed for the Purpoſe, the Rebel Chiefs in Newgate, had a very grand Entertainment, which they kept in a Room called the Caſtle, which is in the Upper Part of the Priſon. Mr. Ratcliffe was then dreſs'd in a Suit of Black; and when the Company were in the High of their Merriment, obſerving a little Door open in the Corner of the Room, he went thro' it, and was follow'd by thirteen more of the Rebels who were then in Company. The Paſſage from this Door, led them to the Maſter's Side Debtors, where the Turnkey not knowing 'em, but ſuppoſing 'em to be Strangers who came to ſee their Friends let 'em out.

Being got clear of Newgate, he took the firſt Opportunity of getting a Paſſage to France. He liv'd there in a very poor and mean Condition, tho' conſtantly fed with Promiſes by the Courtiers; and the Pretender being oblig'd to quit the Dominions of France, Mr. Ratcliffe follow'd him for ſome Time, ſubſiſted upon a poor Penſion, ſuch as his Maſter could afford to allow him. Beſides which he had nothing, except a ſmall Remittance from his Nephew in England.

After

After he had been with the Pretender ſome Time, he return'd to Paris where he made his Addreſſes to and married the Lady Newburgh, Relict of Levingſton, Lord Newburgh, a Scots Nobleman, by whom he has a Son.

In the Year 1733, he came over to England, and reſided in Pall Mall for ſeveral Months; and tho' publickly known, yet the Miniſtry did not think proper to take any Notice of him, ſo long as he behav'd quietly, and gave no Diſturbance to the Government. In the Year 1735, he was over here again, and endeavour'd by the Mediation of Friends to procure his Pardon, though unſucceſsfully.

In the Year 1745, when the late Rebellion broke out in Scotland, Mr: Ratcliffe intended to have had his Share in it; and for that Purpoſe he, his Son, and ſeveral other Scots and Iriſh Officers embark'd on Board the Eſperance Privateer, which was taken by the Sheerneſs Man of War before theſe Gentleman cou'd land in Scotland. Mr. Ratcliffe and his Son, were brought to Town and carried to the Tower; but his Son, who was at firſt thought to be the Pretender's youngeſt Son, was ſoon after ſent to France by the way of Exchange, agreeable to the Cartel eſtabliſh'd between the two Kingdoms; for as he was born in France, he could not be a Traitor to the King of Great Britain.

The Trial of CHARLES RATCLIFFE, Esq; before the Court of KING's BENCH, on Monday the 24th Day of Nov. 1746.

ON Friday the 21st of November, Charles Ratcliffe, Esq was brought from the Tower in a Hackney-Coach, guarded by the Warders, and a Party of Foot-Soldiers, and attended by Mr. Fowler, the Gentleman-Gaoler, and his Assistants; and being called for, he was set to the Bar of the Court of King's-Bench in Westminster-Hall, where he signed himself with the Sign of the Cross.

Then his former Sentence, and the Record of his Conviction for High-Treason, in being concerned in the Rebellion against his late Majesty King George the First, in the Year 1715, was read to him, when after some Reflections on several Gentlemen in the Court, and insisting that he was Earl of Derwentwater, and a Subject of the French King, the Court assign'd him Council, and ordered him to be carried back to the Tower of London, and to be brought up to the said Court again on the Monday following.

The Judges however took no Advantage of his abusive and unmannerly Language, and his Council insinuated, that he was disorder'd in his Senses. They bore his Impertinence with abundance of Patience, and at last acquainted him; that on Monday the 24th they should proceed to impannel a Jury, to try whether he was the identical Charles Ratcliffe, who received Sentence of Death 30 Years before; and then remanded him back to the Tower.

On

On Monday the 24th Day of November 1746, the ſaid Charles Ratcliffe, Eſq; purſuant to the Order of the Court of King's-Bench, was brought from the Tower of London in a Coach, under a ſtrong Guard, dreſſed in a Suit of Scarlet Cloth trimm'd with black Velvet, a Bag Wig, lac'd Hat, and white Feathers in it, and was put down at the King's Arms Tavern in Palace-Yard, Weſtminſter, about Nine of the Clock in the Morning, where he refreſhed himſelf, and in an Hour's Time he was conducted from the ſaid Tavern, on Foot, thro' the Palace-Yard to the Court of King's-Bench, the Officer of the Foot-Guards on his Right-hand, and the Gentleman-Goaler of the Tower on his Left, with ſeveral of the Warders as Aſſiſtants, and being ſet to the Bar of the ſaid Court, the Council for the Crown opened the Proceedings, alledging the Priſoner had been indicted, convicted, and ſentenced to Death as a Traitor, for High Treaſon committed by him againſt his late Majeſty King George the Firſt; that to avoid the Sentence of Death then paſſed upon him, he made his Eſcape out of his Majeſty's Goal of Newgate in London, and then went to France, or other Parts beyond the Seas; that he was lately taken on board of a French Ship, with other Traitors, going to Scotland to aſſiſt the Pretender's eldeſt Son, in the Rebellion begun and carried on there; and that the Priſoner was now brought to the Bar, that an Enquiry by a Jury might be made, Whether he was the identical Perſon mentioned in the Record then produced, it being a neceſſary Form to ſatisfy the Conſcience of the Court of the Identity of the Perſon, before a Rule could be made for his Execution.

The ſaid Mr. Ratcliffe refuſed to hold up his Hand, as directed by the Court, (as ancient Practice uſed on the Crown Side, to diſtinguiſh the Priſoner arraigned, convicted, or brought before the Court for Trial) and denied the Juriſdiction of the Court, ſaying, that he was born a Subject of King James the Second, and ſince to the King of France, and was ſo indiſcreet, as to ask one of the Judges of the Court if he had been a Judge 30 Years, and who made him Judge? He then inſiſted on his being an Officer in the Service of the French King, and offered to produce

his

his Commiſſion, ſaying at the ſame Time, There it is if you can read French; and claimed the Benefit of the Cartel ſettled between the French King and King George the Second at Franckfort, in the Year 1743, for the Exchange of Priſoners, and that the ſame ſhould be read; but that not being material, it was overruled; and then he appealed to the Miniſter of the King of the Two Sicilies, who was preſent with him in Court, to prove the Validity of his Commiſſion, which was objected to by the Council for the Crown, who ſaid, that the purging of one Act of Treaſon by another, could not be admitted; for, if Mr. Ratcliffe was a natural born Subject of England, he could not renounce his Allegiance to the King regnant, for it was enacted by ſeveral Acts of Parliament, to be High Treaſon for any Subject of Great-Britain to bear Arms in the Service of any Prince, Power, or Potentate, that are actually at War with the King of theſe Realms; and that by the Statute of James the Firſt, no Man ſhould go into the Service of any foreign Prince, Power, or Potentate, in Times of Peace (tho' to learn the Military Art) without taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, which they apprehended the Priſoner had not done, being a reputed Roman Catholick.

Then the Court proceeded to read in Engliſh the Record of the Indictment, and his Conviction for High Treaſon in the Year 1716, (which in thoſe Times uſed to be in Latin) after which the Priſoner put in a Plea, that the Charles Ratcliffe, brought into Court was not the ſame Charles Radcliffe mentioned in the ſaid Record, who was convicted and had Sentence of Death for High Treaſon for being concerned in the Rebellion againſt King George the Firſt, on him, in the Year 1715, but that he was Earl of Derwentwater.

Then his Council ſtood up, and made a learned Diſcourſe in his Behalf, and cloſed it with only ſaying, that it was the Plea which he relied on. To which the Council for the Crown replied, with an Averment, that he was the very ſame Perſon mentioned in the ſaid Indictment and Conviction, which they

ſhould

ſhould be able to prove by the Teſtimony of ſeveral creditable Witneſſes, who knew the Priſoner in Northumberland, where he marched at the Head of 500 Men, with his Brother, the late Earl of Derwentwater, and that they ſhould be able to prove him the ſame Charles Ratcliffe, who, under Conviction, was confined at Newgate, from whence he eſcaped in the Year 1715, by Perſons who had there frequent Diſcourſe and Converſation with him.

(Whereupon Iſſue was joined.)

Then Mr. Jodrell and Mr. Ford, the learned Council for the Priſoner moved to put off the Enquiry upon Mr. Ratcliffe's own Affidavit, and was ſubſcribed Le Count de Derwentwater, ſetting forth, that two of his material Witneſſes were at Bruſſels, and other Parts beyond the Seas, and that he could not ſafely go to Trial without them.

To which Affidavit the Council for the Crown replied, that they knew of no ſuch Perſon as the Earl of Derwentwater, and that no ſuch Title was exiſting in Great Britain; that the Priſoner's Brother, by being convicted of High-Treaſon had not only forfeited his Life and Fortune, but alſo his Dignity and Honours, and that the Title of Earl of Derwentwater was extinct in this Kingdom, and if the Priſoner aſſumed that Title, as beſtowed on him by any Foreign Prince, it was an Offence againſt the Crown for a natural-born Subject of Great-Britain to accept of any Title or Dignity, without the Conſent of his King, to whom he owes Allegiance; and if he was not a Subject of Great Britain, and had really ſuch Honour and Dignity conferred on him by a Foreign Prince, yet, by the Laws of England, the Court could take no other Cognizance of him than as a private Perſon; and that they muſt object againſt the Affidavit, as not being entitled in the Iſſue, nor had ſworn that his Witneſſes abroad were material between the King and the Priſoner; and alſo that the Priſoner had not ſworn he Was not the ſame Charles Radcliffe mentioned in the aforeſaid Proceedings, which was a Fact entirely in his own Knowledge, and What ought to be required of him,

him, if he expected to be entitled to any ſuch Favour from the Court, that being a Proceeding very different from an Iſſue of Not Guilty, in an original Trial or Proſecution on a Charge of High Treaſon, Felony or Miſdemeanor againſt the Crown, becauſe the Identity of the Perſon that had eſcaped from the Sentence of the Court by breaking out of Newgate in London, after Conviction and Sentence of Death, was now the Subject of the Matter of this Enquiry, and a Caſe in which thoſe Who Were concerned in Proſecutions of this Nature Were entitled by the known Laws of the Land to proceed imediate.

Upon which his Council inſiſted, that the Priſoner at the Bar was not obliged to ſubſcribe, or call himſelf by any Name he was tried by, it being a Maxim in Law, Nullum ſe ipſe accuſat; that till the learned Council for the Crown could prove otherwiſe he muſt be accepted as Le Count de Derwentwater, or any other Name that he would think proper to aſſume upon himſelf, and that if they had thought he would go by another Name, the Proſecutors might call him by the Name of Charles Ratcliffe with an alias, or otherwiſe, as is the known Cuſtom in Proceedings for the Crown.

Hereupon the Court permitted Mr. Ratcliffe to amend his Affidavit as to the Witneſſes; but he refuſed to alter it to their Satisfaction, ſo far as to prove he was not the ſame Charles Radcliffe the Perſon mentioned in the Indictment and Record of his Conviction.

Upon reading the amended Affidavit, it was alledged that this was a new Precedent, there being no Inſtance of an Application to put off an Enquiry of this Nature before, for this was of the Nature of an Inqueſt, in order to inform the Conſcience of the Court, if the Priſoner was the identical Man mentioned in the Records, and in Which the Publick had a Right to proceed Inſtanter; and therefore it was incumbent on the Priſoner to give all reaſonable Satisfaction to the Court why this Enquiry ſhould be poſtponed.

But

But the Priſoner ſtill refuſing to ſwear he was not the ſame Perſon mentioned in the ſaid Record of his Conviction, the Court directed the Jury to be ſworn; and after three of the Jurymen had paſs'd the Book, he challenged the next that was called, as of Right, without aſſigning and Cauſe, which occaſioned ſeveral learned Debates.

But the Court was of Opinion, (there being an Inſtance of the like Nature in other Caſes) that the Priſoner was not entitled to a peremptory Challenge ſo that that the reſt of the Jury were ſworn. After the Jury were called over, the Council for the Crown made a learned Obſervation of the Priſoner's Caſe, and proceeded to call their Witneſſes.

On Behalf of the Crown, the two firſt Witneſſes examined were, Abraham Bunting and Thomas Moſeley, two Northumberland Men, who being ſworn, depoſed That the Priſoner at the Bar, Charles Radcliffe, was younger Brother to the late Earl of Derwentwater, who was executed for High-Treaſon, and that they ſaw him march out from Hexham in Northumberland, at the Head of Five Hundred of the Earl's Tenants, and Servants, and other Rebels, and that they were informed, and verily believed, the Priſoner was afterwards taken, tried, convicted, and condemned for High Treaſon, in the Year 1716.

Being ſeverally aſk'd, If the Priſoner at the Bar was the ſame Perſon, each of them anſwered, That they remembered him very well, by a Scar in his Face; that they had been to ſee him in the Tower, to refreſh their Memories, and could undertake on their Oaths to ſwear he was the ſame Charles Radcliffe, and reputed Brother to the late Earl of Derwentwater.

Being croſs examined whether either of them were at the Tryal of this Charles Radcliffe, mentioned in the Record lately read or if they ever ſaw Charles Radcliffe in Newgate, and if the Priſoner was the ſame Perſon, the Evidences ſeverally anſwered, they

did not hear the Priſoner tried, or did they ever ſee him in Newgate, nor could they ſay that he was the ſame Charles Radcliffe who eſcaped out of Newgate.——But as to being the ſame Perſon whom they ſaw commanding the Rebels in Northumberland they were both poſitive.

Then Roger Downs being produced and ſwore, he was asked by the Council if he did not ſhave the State-Priſoners that were confined in Newgate after the Year 1715.

Priſoner. I hope, Sir, you have ſome Conſcience, you are now ſworn, and take heed what you ſay.

Downs. I ſhall ſpeak nothing but the Truth. I well remember that I was appointed cloſe Shaver at Newgate, in the Years 1715 and 1716, when the Rebels were confined there and ſhaved all thoſe who were cloſe confined.

Council. Pray, Sir, did you ſhave Charles Rateliffe, Eſq; the late Earl of Derwentwater's Brother, who was confined in Newgate for being concerned in the Rebellion in the Year 1715, or who elſe did you ſhave of the ſaid Rebels at that Time? And pray, Sir, who was Keeper, or who were Turnkeys of the ſaid Goal of Newgate?

Downs. William Pitt, Eſq; was Head Keeper, and Mr. Rouſe and Mr. Revel were Head Turnkeys, who appointed my Maſter to be Barber to ſhave the Priſoners, and I attended in my Maſter's ſtead, and I uſed to go daily to wait on the Rebel Priſoners, and I particularly remember that I ſhaved Baſil Hamilton, a reputed Nephew of the late Duke Hamilton and Charles Ratcliffe, Eſq; Brother to the late Earl of Derwentwater, who I perfectly remember were Chumbs or Companions in one Room in the Preſs-Yard in Newgate, that looked into the Garden of the College of Phyſicians, and for which Service I was always very well paid.

Council. Then pray, Sir, look at the Priſoner, (which he did) and inform the Court if that Gentleman is the very ſame Charles Ratcliffe that you ſhaved in Newgate at the aforeſaid Time, and who after eſcaped out of Newgate.

Downs. I cannot on my Oath ſay he is.

Then the Head Keeper of Newgate was called, and he produced the Books belonging to the Gaol, wherein was the Name of Charles Ratcliffe, and other Rebels, who had been condemned, and were reſpited ſeveral Times.

——— This Gentleman ſaid, that the Books produced then in Court were in the ſame Condition that he found them.---But as to the Perſon of the Priſoner he knew nothing of, his Confinement being ſeveral Years before he belong'd to the Gaol.

Then Abraham Mendez, a Servant to the above Gentleman, who had been ſubpœned on the Part of the Crown was call'd, but he was not ſworn, becauſe he could give no Account of the Priſoner, his Confinement being before he the ſaid Mendez was a Servant belonging to the Gaol of Newgate.

Then a Gentleman was called, and as the Book was handing him to be ſworn, the Priſoner very earneſtly looking at him, asked the Officer, What Book that was he was going to be ſworn on? The Officer replied, On the New Teſtament.

The Priſoner replied, He is no Chriſtian, and believes neither in God nor Devil. The ſaid Gentleman being examined, depoſed That the Priſoner ſince his Confinement in the Tower had declared himſelf to be the ſame Charles Ratcliffe who was condemned in the Year 1715; and likewiſe told him, in what Manner he made his Eſcape out of Newgate, in Mourning, with a brown Tye Wig, when under Sentence of Death in that Gaol.

He was asked if the Priſoner was drunk when he made this

Confeſſion; the Witneſs ſaid No. He was then asked if he had been drinking himſelf when the Confeſſion was made: he anſwered, He never got drunk.

When Mr. Ratcliffe replied haſtily, That ſome People would get Drunk, if at free Coſt.

The Priſoner not examining any Witneſſes, the King's Counſel made the Reply; and the Lord Chief Juſtice ſumm'd up the Evidence to the Jury, who withdrew, and in about 15 Minutes brought in their Verdict, that the Priſoner at the Bar was the ſame identical Charles Ratcliffe who was tried and convicted of High Treaſon, and broke out of Newgate in the Year 1716.

The Attorney-General moved, that a Rule of Court might be made out for the Execution of the Priſoner, which was done for Monday the 8th Day of November, 1746.

When he was informed by the Court of the Time appointed for his Execution, he had the Inſolence to tell them, That he wiſh'd they had granted him a longer Time, that ſo he might have acquainted ſome People in France, that ſo his Brother the Earl of Murcton and he might have ſet out on their Journey together.

Then Mr. Ratliffe was conducted back to the Tower of London, where he remained in the Round Tower near the Gate, till the 8th of December, 1746, where the late Earl of Kilmarnock was confin'd.

We come now to ſpeak of his Behaviour; but before we do that, it will not be improper to inform our Readers, that at the ſame Time, this Gentleman was committed to the Tower, his Equerry, Mr. M'Dermout who had ſerv'd him in that Quality three and twenty Years, was ſent, to Newgate, being charged with High Treaſon.

After his Commitment to the Tower, he behaved with a ſullen Pride and Haughtineſs ſcarce ſufferable. As he imagined himſelf a Nobleman, and one of the firſt Rank, he ſeem'd to be poſſeſs'd of a Notion

that

that Priee, Ill-nature, and Abuſiveneſs were inſeparable from noble Blood, and therefore diſcavered, on all Occaſions, and in every Part of his Behaviour, eſpecially to his Inferiors, thoſe troubleſome Quaiitiee. So that at laſt, it was with Difficulty that he could ptevail with the Warders, or indeed, any others, to give him common Attendance.

I am ſorry I am obliged to mention theſe Particulars, whlch are ſo much to his Diſcredit, eſrecially when I remember the amiable Temper of the Earl, and am griev'd that there ſhould be one in the Family who has ſhewn a Character which muſt for ever ſtand as a Contraſte to that of his Brother:

But I muſt do Juſtice to my Subject; I have ſhewn his Vrrtues in the Courſe of theſe Memoirs, and the Publick might well charge me wit'h Partiality if I endeavour'd to conceal or Palliote his Faults. And it would he in vain to attempt it, ſince there are Hundreds who could convict us of Partiality where we to attempt it.

On

On the Day of EXECUTION.

BETWEEN Nine and Ten in the Morning, the Sheriffs with their Under Sheriffs, met at the Mitre Tavern in Fenchurch-Street, and from thence proceeded, the Under Sheriffs in a Mourning Coach, and the Sheriffs in their Chariots to the Lower End of the Minories, where they were met by their Officers, who march'd before them till they came over against the Victualling-Office where they ſtopt, and then the Under Sheriffs went down to the Eaſt Gate of the Tower, which is next to Iron Gate, when getting out of the Mourning Coach, they went up to the Gate, they required Admittance to the Lieutenant Governor of the Tower; upon which the Gate was open'd, and they went in, and in about Ten Minutes return'd, and went into the Mourning Coach again, which waited for them; and in a ſhort Time after the Priſoner was brought in a Landau from his Apartment in the Tower, out at the Eaſt Gate, and then the Proceſſion which was ſlow and ſolemn, was as follows.

Firſt, the Sheriffs-Officers, then the Mourning Coach in which were the two Under Sheriffs With their Wands? then the Landau with the Priſoner, and the Officers of the Tower who had him in Cuſtody; the Landau Was ſurrounded by a Party of Foot Guards With their Bayonete fix'd.

In this Manner they proceeded up Little Tower Hill, till they came oppoſite the Victualling Office, Where the Sheriffs waited to receive him; at which Place the Priſoner got out of the Landau, and Was put into the Mourning Coach, Which carried him about a hundred Yards further, to a Booth built on Purpoſe to repoſe himſelf in, at the Foot of the Stairs of the Scaffold.

When

When he got out of the Landau, happening to ſee ſome Gentlemen he knew, he paid his Compliments to them in the genteeleſt Manner, and ſmil'd, and coming to the Side of the Mourning-Coach, he ask'd the Officers who ſtood to Wait, Whether he Was to go in there; and being anſwer'd in the Affirmative, he only ſaid, It is Well, and ſo ſtepp'd in directly.

Being come to the Booth before-mentioned attended with the Sheriffs, he ſtaid there about ten Minutes, Which Time he ſpent chiefly in his Devotions, ſpeaking but very little to any Body.

He then Walk'd up upon the Scaffold With great Compoſure. He Was dreſs'd in his Regimentals, a Scarlet Coat, With Gold Buttons, the Sleeves fac'd with black Velvet, Scarlet Waiſtcoat trimm'd with Gold Lace, a Scarlet Pair of Breeches, and White Silk Stockings, and his Hat With a White Feather round it.

Soon after he was upon the Stage, he asked for the Executioner, Who ſtanding by him, he put his Hand in his Pocket, and took out a Parcel of Gold, and then gave it into his Hands, ſaying, I am but a poor Man, there's ten Guineas for you, if I had more I would give it you; and I deſire you to do your Execution ſo as to put me to the leaſt Miſery you can.

He then kneeled down before the Block, and putting his Hands together he prayed for ſome little while, when two of the Warders of the Town, came to him, one of each Side of him; one of them took off his Wigg, and the other put a white Cap upon his Head; and then the unhappy Criminal roſe upon his Legs, and with their Aſſiſtance pull'd off his Coat and Waiſtcoat.

He then turn'd about and took his Leave, in a reſpectful Manner of the Sheriffs, and then untied the Collar of his Shirt, which was faſtened with a black Ribbon, and began to tuck the Collar of his Shirt down, but not being able to reach far enough behind, he deſired the Executioner to do it for him, which the Executioner did accordingly. And

And Then, after saying a short Prayer to himself, and crossing himself several Times, he laid his Head down upon the Block; and then desired the Executioner to strike far enough, and then added these his last Words, When I spread my Hands, thus, do you take my Head off.

And in less than half a Minute he gave the Signal, which was follow'd with a stroke of the Ax, which sever'd his Head, except a Bit of Skin which he cut asunder at two or three Chops. The Body then fell down upon the Stage; and the Executioner searching his Pockets, found half a Guinea a Silver Crucifix, and his Beads. Four Undertaker Men stood ready with a Piece of red Boys to receive the Head as it fell off, and the Body was wrapt up in a Blanket, and then the Body in the Blanket, and the Head in the Bays, were put into the Coffin which stood upon the Stage, and the Coffin was then put into a Hearse, which carried the Corps to the Nagg's Head in Gray's Inn Lane, from whence it was removed in the Dead of the Night, to Mr. Walmsley's, in North Street, Red Lion Square, from whence he was buried.

His Coffin was cover'd with Black Velvet, with gilt Nails and Handles, without a Plate, his Age was 53. The Inside of the Coffin was Lead, and lin'd with Sattin.

The Executioner after he had examined his Pockets, found that Mr. Ratcliffe had given him a Guinea and half more than he had told him, so that with the Half Guinea which he found in the Gentleman's Pockets, made in the whole Twelve Guineas.

Had he liv'd to Thursday the 11th Instant, it would have been just 30 Years ago since he receiv'd Sentence of Death.

On the Thursday Night following, the Corps of Mr. Ratcliffe was carried in a Hearse, attended by two Mourning Coaches, to St. Giles's in the Fields, and there interr'd near the Remains of the late Earl of Derwentwater, according to his Desire. The Inscription on his Coffin was as follows.

Charles Ratcliffe, Comes de Derwentwater,
Decollatis Die 8 Decembris. 1746.

Ætatis 53.

Requiescat in Pace.

An ACCOUNT of the IMPEACHMENT of JAMES RADCLIFFE, late Earl of DERWENTWATER.

ON the 15th of January, 1715, James Radcliffe, late Earl of Derwentwater, was brought to the House of Commons having been Impeached before that Honourable House, for that He, with many others, had most maliciously and wickedly designed and contriv'd to subvert the most antient and happy established Government, and the good Laws of these Kingdoms, &c. to extirpate the true Protestant Religion, &c. and instead thereof to introduce and settle Popery and Arbitrary Power, &c, and for maliciously, falsly, and traiterously immagining and compassing the Death of his late most Sacred Majesty King George the First.

When, by Order of the Lord High Steward, the Record of the Answer and Plea of his Lordship was read. To which the Earl put into the Following Answer, which was in these Words.

'To a Charge of so high and heinous a Nature, the said Earl cannot answer withought the deepest Concern and Affliction; which becomes more Weighty from the Share the Honourable

And Then, after saying a short Prayer to himself, and crossing himself several Times, he laid his Head down upon the Block; and then desired the Executioner to strike far enough, and then added these his last Words, When I spread my Hands, thus, do you take my Head off.

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When, by Order of the Lord High Steward, the Record of the Anſwer and Plea of his Lordſhip was read. To which the Earl put into the Following Anſwer, which was in theſe Words.

'To a Charge of ſo hgh and heinous a Nature, the ſaid Earl cannot anſwer withought the deepeſt Concern and Affliction, which becomes more Weighty from the Share the Honourable

House of Commons have been pleas'd to take in the Accusation: He assures himself however, that Great Assembly doth not engage in the Prosecution of an Offence, so open to Conviction in the ordinary Course of Law, with Design to intercept that Mercy which the Earl from the Report of his Majesty's Goodness, had Reason to expect.

It would be a Thought unworthy any Member of that August Body, to imagine he could have the least Desire of spilling the Blood of any of his Fellow Subjects, whom his Majesty's great Wisdom should think a fit Object of his Mercy: The said Earl therefore humbly hopes, that his Prosecution is taken out of the common Course of Justice, with Intention that if in his particular Case there shall appear any Circumstances inducing Favour or Commoms may be Intercessors with his Majesty for Grace towards him; whereby the Exercise of the Royal Mercy, upon which the Earl depended (which amongst all the Virtues of the Crown, most endears a Monarch to the Love and Affection of his People) may be extended in suc Manner as may demonstrate that Clemency, for which his Majesty is so greatly renowned and not encourage any to offend upon the Presumption of it for the future.

The said Earl acknowledges with a real Sorrow, that at the Time in the Articles mentioned, he was in Arms, and with others did march through and invade several Parts of this Kingdom, and confesses he is thereby guilty of the Offence wherewith he is charged in the said Articles.

But if any Offence of that Kind was ever attended with Circumstances which might move Compassion, the said Earl hopes he may be intitled to it: He begs Leave to inform your Lordships, That his Temper and Inclination disposed him to live peaceably under his Majesty's Government, and he never had the least Prejudice or Malice against his Person, nor was he ever heretofore concerned in or privy to any Design or Contrivance to

subvert

ſubvert or diſturb the eſtabliſhed Government, the Laws or Religion of this Kingdom.

And if any Methods were taken by others to accompliſh any of thoſe Ends, he was abſolutely a Stranger to them; nor did he now ingage in this unhappy Undertaking upon any previous Concert or Contrivance for any ſuch Purpoſe; but being young and unexperienced, he raſhly, and without any Deliberation, engaged himſelf to meet at Plainfield in Northumberland, on Aſſurance that many of his Relations and Acquaintance would appear there; that his Undertaking was ſudden, appears in that he engaged in it without any Previous Preparation of Men, Horſes, Arms, or other warlike Accoutrements.

And as the ſaid Earl can't be juſtly reproached with any cruel, ſevere or harſh Action during the continuance in Arms, ſo he took the firſt Opportunity that offered of ſubmitting to the King's Mercy.

After the ſudden Skirmiſhes at Preſton, the ſaid Earl, with others, was ſollicitous to prevent any farther Deſtruction of the Lives of his Majeſty's Subjects, and inſtrumental to induce all in Arms to ſubmit themſelves to the King, provided they might be ſecured of their Lives.

One of his Majeſty's Officers, ſent from the General, gave them Encouragement to believe, that the Surrender of themſelves would be the ready way to obtain the King's Mercy. In Confidence whereof, when a Ceſſation was agreed on, the ſaid Earl offered himſelf to become one of the Hoſtages for them till the next Morning, in which time he received further Aſſurances from the Officers, that the King was a Prince of known Clemency, and that this was a diſtinguiſhing part of his Character, and that the free Surrender to Mercy would be the moſt proper means to obtain it.

The ſaid Earl believes his Majeſty's Officers were very ſenſible, and will be ſo juſt as to acknowledge, that it had not been impracticable for many of thoſe at Preſton to make their Way through his Majeſty's Forces, but this attempt muſt have occaſioned the Loſs of many Lives and might have

have been productive of ill Consequences to the Government, which the said Earl was desirous to prevent: and when the Time agreed on for the Cessation was near expired, and General Wills seemed uneasy in not having received any Message from those in the Town, the said Earl writ a Letter to exhort them to surrender to the King's Mercy; and declared to the said General, and other Officers, that whatever happened, he was determined to continue with them, and rely entirely on his Majesty's Clemency and Goodness, which he had encouragement to expect; and in such Circumstances the said Earl cannot distrust your Lordships or the Commons Readiness, to use their Mediation for Mercy on his Behalf which will lay him under the highest Obligations of Duty and Affection to his Majesty, and perpetual Gratitude to both Houses of Parliament.

Derwentwater.

When the Earl was brought to receive Judgment of Death, he moved nothing in Arrest of Judgment; but spoke in the following Words.

The Terrors of your Lordships just Sentence, which at once deprive me of my Life and Estate and compleat the Misfortunes of my Wife and innocent Children, are so heavy upon my Mind, together with my Unexperience, that I am scarce able to alledge what may extenuate my Offence if any thing can do it.

I have confess'd myself guilty; but, my Lords, that Guilt was rashly incurred without any Premeditation, as I hope your Lordships will be convinc'd by one Particular; I beg Leave to observe, I was wholly unprovided with Men, Horses, Arms, and other Necessaries, which in my Situation, I could not have wanted, had I been privy to any formed Design: As my Offence was sudden, so my Submission was early; when his Majesty's Generals thought fit to demand Hostages for securing the Terms of the Cessation, I volntarily offered myself, without which the Cessation might possibly have proved ineffectual.

And whilst I continued Hostage, the great Character of his Majesty's Clem-

Clemency, and the repeated Encouragement I had to hope for Mercy, by ſurrendering to it, ſoon determined me; and I accordingly declared my Reſolution to remain with his Majeſty's Forces, and from that Time ſubmitted myſelf to his Goodneſs, on which I ſhall entirely depend.

I humbly hope to obtain the Mediation of your Lordſhips, and of the honourable Houſe of Commons, in my Behalf; ſolemnly proteſting my future Conduct ſhall ſhew me not altogether unworthy your generous Compaſſion for my Life, which is all I can beg of his Majeſty.

Notwithſtanding there was great Intereſt made for the Earl, he was beheaded on Tower-Hill with Lord Kenmure, on the 14th of February, 1715, and being brought to the Scaffold, where having ſpent ſome Time in praying with a Book, he then addreſs'd himſelf to the Sheriff and deſired the Liberty to read a Paper, which he had drawn up: This Requeſt being readily granted, he went to the Rails of the Scaffold, and read as follows;

BEING in a few Minutes to appear before the Tribunal of God, where, though moſt unworthy, I hope to find Mercy, which I have not found from Men now in Power, I have endeavoured to make my Peace with his Divine Majeſty, by moſt humbly begging Pardon for all the Sins of my Life; and I doubt not of a merciful Forgiveneſs and Acceptance, thro' the Mirits of the Paſſion and Death of my Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, for which End I earneſtly deſire the Prayers of all good Chriſtians.

After this, I am to ask Pardon of thoſe whom I might have ſcandalized by pleading Guilty at my Trial. Such as were permitted to come to me, told me, that having been undeniably in Arms, pleading Guilty was but the Conſequence of having ſubmitted to Mercy; and many Arguments were us'd, to prove there was nothing of Moment in ſo doing; amongſt others, the univerſal Practice of Signing of Leaſes, whereof the Preambles run in the Name of the Perſon in Poſſeſſion.

But

But I am ſenſible that in this I have made bold with my Loyalty, having never own'd any other but King — for my rightful and lawful Sovereign; him I had an Inclination to ſerve from my infancy, and was moved thereto by a natural Love I had to his Perſon, knowing him to be capable of making his People happy; and though he had been of a different Religion from mine, I ſhould have done all for him that lay in my Power, as my Anceſtors have done for his Predeceſſors, being thereto bound by the Laws of God and Man.

Wherefore, in this Affair, I have acted raſhly, it ought not to affect the innocent; I intended to wrong no Body, but to ſerve my King and Country, and that without Self-intereſt; hoping by the Example I gave, to have induced others to their Duty; and God, who ſees the Secrets of my Heart, knows I ſpeak Truth.

Some Means have been propoſed to me for ſaving my Life, which I looked upon as inconſiſtent with Honour and Conſcience, and I rejected them; for, which God's Aſſiſtance, I ſhall prefer my Death, to the doing a baſe unworthy Action. I only wsſh now, that the laying down my Life, might contribute to the Service of my Native Country, and the Re-eſtabliſhment of the antient and fundamental Conſtitutation of theſe Kingdoms; without which, no laſting Peace, or true Happineſs, can attend them; then I ſhould, indeed, part with my Life even with Pleaſure: And as it is, I can only Pray, that theſe Bleſſings may be beſtowed upon my dear Country; and ſiuce I can do no more, I beſeech God to accept of my Life, as a ſmall Sacrifice towards it.

I die a Roman Catholick; I am in perfect Charity with all the World, I thank God for it, even with thoſe of the preſent Government, who are moſt inſtrumental in my Death.

P. S. If that Prince who now governs, had given me my Life

Life, I ſhould have thought myſelf obliged never more to have taken up Arms againſt him.

J. DERWENTWATER.

After the Execution of the Earl, the King was graciouſly pleaſed to give Orders for the Delivery of his Body to his Friends to be buried.

The Laſt Words of Mr. WILLIAM PAUL, Executed at TYBURN JULY the 13, 1716. for High Treaſon.

Good People.

I am juſt going to make my appearance in the other World where I muſt give an Account of all the Actions of my paſt Life. and though I have endeavoured to make my Peace with God, but ſincerely repenting of all my Sins; yet forasmuch as ſeveral of them are of a publick Nature, I take it to be my Duty to declare here in the Face of the World, my hearty Abhorence and Deſtation of them.

And firſt I ask Pardon of God and the King, for having violated my Loyalty by taking moſt abominable Oaths in Defence againſt my Lawful Sovereign King ——

And as I ask Pardon of all Perſons whom I have injur'd or offended, ſo I do eſpecially deſire forgiveneſs of all thoſe whom I have Scandaliz'd by pleading Guilty. I am ſenſible that it is a baſe

base and dishonourable Action: that it is inconsistant with my Duty to the King, and an entire Surrender of my Loyalty. Human Frailty, and too great a Desire of Tise, together with the Persuasions of several who pretended to be my Friends, were the Occasion of it. I trust God of his infinite Mercy, upon my sincere Repentance, has forgiven me, and I hope all good Christians will.

You see my Countrymen, by my Habit, that I die a Son, tho' a very unworthy one of the Church of England. But I would not have you think that I am a Member of the Schismatical Church, were Bishops set themselves up in Opposition to those Orthodox Fathers who were unlawfully and invalidly depriv'd by the Prince of Orange. I declare that I renounce that Communion, and that I die a dutiful and faithful Member of the Nonjuring Church, which has kept itself free from Rebellion and Schism, and has preserved and maintain'd true Orthodox Principles both as to Church and and State. And I desire the Clergy and all other Members of the Revolution Church, when their Succession is grounden upon an unlawful and invalid Deprivation of Catholick Bishops.

Having asked Forgivness for my self, I come now to forgive others. I pardon those who under the Notion of Friendship, persuaded me to plead Guilty. I heartily forgive all my most inveterate Enemies, especially my Lord Townshend, and all others who have been instrumental in promoting my Death. Father, forgive them; Lord Jesus have Mercy upon them, and lay not this Sin to their Charge.

And now Beloved, if you have any regard to your Country, bring the King to his Just and Undoubted Right, that is the only Way to be freed from these Misfortunes, and to secure all those Rights and Priviledges which are in Danger at present.

I shall be heartily glad, Good People, if what I have said has any Effect upon you, so as to be instrumental in making you perform your Duty: It is out of my Power now to do any thing more

more to serve the King, than by employing some of those few Minutes I have to live in this World in praying to Almighty God to shower down his Blessings Spiritual and Temporal upon his Head, to protect Him and restore Him, to be favourable to his Undertakings to prosper Him here, and to reward Him hereafter. I beseech ye same Infinite Goodness to preserve and defend the Church of England and to restore it to all its just Rights and Priviledges. And lastly I pray God have mercy upon me pardon my Sins and receive my Soul into his everlasting Kingdom that with the Partriarchs, Prophets, Apostles and Martyrs. I may praise and magnifie Him for ever and ever Amen.

As to my Body Bretheren I have taken no manner of Care of it for I value not the barbarous Part of the Sentence of being cut down and Quarter'd when I am once gone I shall be out of the Reach of my Enemies: And I wish I had Quarters enough to send to every Parish of the Kingdom to testify, That a Clergy-man of the Church of England was Matyrd for being Loyal to his K---.

July 13.1716. WILLIAM PAUL.

The Last Words of Colonel Oxburgh. Executed at Tyburn May 14th, 1716 for High Treason.

Custom has made it almost necessary for Persons in my Circumstances to say or leave somewhat by their last Words, declareing their Sentiments with relation to what they die for.

In compliance with which I have thought fit to make the following Declaration.

In the first place I declare I die a Member of the Holy Roman Catholick Church, though a very unworthy one, and I desire all the Members of that Communion to assist my Soul with their Charitable Prayers. I declare myself in Charity with all the World, and do from my soul forgive all my Enemies, and all others who have any ways injured or done me Wrong: and Particularly I forgive all those who have promoted my Death by malicious Misrepresentations or otherwise and earnestly beg God to forgive them, and grant them the same Blessings I desire for my own Soul. I likewise ask Pardon of all such as I have Offended.

It has been said, That the Catholicks who were taken at Preston, engaged in that Affair in view only of setting a Catholick King on the Throne, and Re-establishing the Catholick Religion in England; but that is not the only Calumny charged on them I declare for my own particular, That if K--- had been a Protestant, I should think myself obliged to pay him the same Duty and do him the same Service as if a Catholick, nor do I know any Catholick that is not of the same Principle: for I never could find, that either by the Laws of God, or the ancient Constitution of the Nation, difference of Religion in the Prince, made any change in the Allegiance of the Subject.

I might have hop'd from the great Character Mr. Wills gave me at Preston (when I treated with him for a Surrender) of the Clemency of the Prince now on the Throne, (to which he said we could not better entitle ourselves than by an early Submission) that such as surrender'd themselves Prisoners at Discretion, on that Prospect, would have met with more Lenity than I have experienc'd; and I beleive England is the only Country in Europe, where Prisoners at Discretion are not understood to have their Lives saved.

I Pray God of his Infinite Goodneſs reſtore the Nation to its former Happineſs, by extinguiſhing all unhappy Diviſions, that all Animoſities and Feuds may be buried, and no other Emulation remain among the Subjects of Great Britain but who ſhall be moſt zealous in advancing the true Glory of God and the true Intereſt of the Nation.

May 14, 1716.

HENRY OXBURGH.

The Laſt Words of CAPTAIN BRUCE, Executed at Lancaſter Oct. 2d, 1716 for High Treaſon.

I am brought to this Place to diſcharge the laſt Debt I owe to Nature and cheerfully reſign to the Bleſſed Will of Almighty God whoſe Mercy I adore, in that He hath afforded me his Grace and Means Sincerely to repent me of my paſt Sins, and ſuch Time to prepare for that Bleſſed and Glorious Change, which I hope to meet with in a few Moments.

I am not aſhamed of that Cauſe for which I die, but rejoyce that I am worthy to be a Sacrifice, in the Vindication of the undoubted Rights of my Lawful and Natural Liege —— and the expiring Liberty of my dear Country; I always firmly believed the Hereditary Right of Succeſsion to the Imperial Crown of theſe Realms, to be a fundamental and unalterable Part of the Conſtitution, and could never think that any difference in Religion, or any the prerended Laws which never yet received the Rayal A--t of any Lawful K--, could in anywiſe diſengage me

or

or any Honeſt Man, from that Duty and Allegiance which is due to our Lawful ſovereign K--, whoſe Title by Birthright is Clear and unqueſtionable; and therefore was engaged by the ſtrongeſt Obligations of Duty, Honour Religion and Law, to join with his Loyal Subjects in the juſt Endeavour to reſtore him to his Rights and break through that Fence which hath ſo long kept him from them.

God in his infinite Mercy forgive theſe Kingdoms, incline the Hearts of the People to ſtand as one Man to bring in their lawful K--, and free themſelves from that Mercileſs Tyranny which they now groan under, I am grown in Years, and not much ſhort of what the Royal Pſalmiſt calls the Age of Man, and have known many Struggles in order to preſerve the Conſtitution and ſinking Liberties of the People, and ſeveral Turns and Changes that have enſued; in all which praiſed be God, I preſerved my Integrity, by a ſtrict Adherence to the intereſt of my King and Country, and oppoſing as far as in me lay, the innovations that were daily introduced, to the Injury of the one, and the Inſlavery of the Other.

As one Wickedneſs is the Parent of another ſo the Revolation begot the union, and from theſe fources flow the Waters of Bitterneſs which the Good People of theſe Nations ſo plentifully drink of at this Time. May God of his infinite Mercy work their Speedy Deliverance and reſtore them to their Ancient happy Conſtitution and Government. As for my Religion I was bred up a Proteſtant according to the Doctrine and Diſcipline of the Church of England wherein *I* have ever liv'd, and in which (by God's Grace and Mercy) *I* ſhall die; *It* taught me to give both God and the King their due, to deal juſtly with all Men forgive my Enemies and expect Salvation through Jeſus Chriſt. Her Doctrines and Government *I* embrace and pray God to reſtore Her to Her former Purity, Peace and Proſperity. *I* beſeech all whom *I* have any ways offended, to forgive me as from the bottom of my Heart *I* do all who have any ways injur'd me, and particularly thoſe who were concerned in my Proſecution, or in any ways inſtrumental

inſtrumental in promoting my Death: *I* forgive that greateſt of injuries their Surpriſing me into a Confeſſion of their Indictment by bringing me to a Tryal two Days before the Time mention'd in their Notice and without ever giving me any Copy of the Jury being a Scotſman and a Stranger to the Laws of England, *I* was the more liable to be impoſed on: God of his infinite Mercy forgive them as *I* freely do.

I think it incumbent on me to take this laſt Oppertunity of Vindicating my Honour from that Report which traduced me as Unfaithful to his Grace the late Duke of Hamilton, whilſt *I* had the Honour, which was about Twenty four Years, to be with him as a Compainon and Humble ſervant, and hereby declare upon the Words of a Dying Man, and as *I* ſhall anſwer it before the Almighty God, that what has been ſaid to aſperſe me on that Account was utterly Falſe, or any Diſpleaſure his Grace conceivd againſt me concerning it entirely Groundleſs: *I* always lov'd him, and dealt faithfully by that Noble Duke, as God, the Righteous Judge, will witneſs for me.

Thus have *I* diſcharged my Conſcience: And now bleſsed be Almighty God, that hath brought me to this happy Period of my Pilgrimage *I* have finiſhed a long Courſe, and adher'd without wavering to my King, the Lords Anointed's Cauſe, for and in which *I* die, and hope this day to be with my Saviour, tranſlated to rejoyce with other Loyal Sufferers, and all the Saints and Angels for evermore.

October 2d. 1716. JOHN BRUCE.

the

The Laſt Words of JOHN HALL, Eſq; Executed at Tyburn, July the 13th, 1716. For High-Treaſon.

Friends, Brethren, and Countrymen.

I AM come here to die for the ſake of God, my King, and my Country, and I heartily rejoyce that I am counted worthy of ſo great an Honour. For let not any of you think that I am come to a ſhameful and ignominious End. The Truth and Juſtice of the Cauſe for which I ſuffer makes my Death a Duty, a Vertue and an Honour. Remember that I lay down my Life for aſſerting the Right of my own lawful Sovereign King ——— the Third: That I offer myſelf as a Victim for the Liberties and Happineſs of my dear Country and my beloved Fellow Subjects. That I fall a ſacrifice to Tyranny and Oppreſſion; in ſhort, conſider, That I ſuffer in Defence of the Commands of God and the Laws and Hereditary Conſtitution of the Land; and then know and be aſſured that I am not a Traitor, but a Martyr.

I declare, that I die a true and ſincere Member of the Church of England, but not of the Revolution Schiſmatical Church, whoſe Biſhops have ſo Rebelliouſly abandon'd the King, and ſo ſhameſully given up the Rights of the Church, by ſubmitting to the unlawful invalid lay Deprivations of the Prince of Orange. The Communion I die in is that of the true Catholick Nonjuring Church of England, and I pray God to proſper and increaſe it, and to grant, if it be his good Pleaſure, that it may Riſe again and Flouriſh.

I heartily beg Pardon of all whom I have in any Manner, and

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at any Time injured and offended, I do particularly implore forgiveneſs of God and my King for having ſo far ſwerved from my Duty, as to comply in ſwearing Allegiance. God knows my heart, I did this at firſt through ignorance and error; but after I had recollected myſelf, and inform'd my Judgment better, I repented, and drew my Sword for the King, and now ſubmit myſelf to this violent Death for his Sake. I heartily pray God, my Penitence and my Sufferings may attone for my former Crimes; and this I beg, thro' the Merits, Mediation and Sufferings of my deareſt Saviour Chriſt Jeſus.

I do ſincerely forgive all my Enemies, eſpecially thoſe who have either cauſed or increaſed the Deſtructions in Church and State. I pray God have Mercy upon them, becauſe they are the Work of his own Hands, and becauſe they are redeemed with his Sons moſt precious Blood. I do particularly forgive from the bottom of my Heart, my unjuſt pretended Judges and Jury, who Convicted and condemn'd me, Mr. Patten and Mr. Carnaby, Evidences, who ſwore againſt me at my Trial: And I do here declare upon the Words of a dying Man (and all my Northumberland Fellow Priſoners can teſtifie the ſame) that the Evidence they gave was ſo far from being the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth, that in Relation to my Indictment, they ſwore not one true Thing againſt me, but many abſolve falſhoods. I pray God forgive them, for I am ſure I do.

Laſtly, I forgive all who had any hand in the Surrender at Preſton, for they have ſurrendered away my Life, and I would to God that were the only bad Conſequence of it; but alas, it is too plain, that the Surrenders not only ruined many of his Majeſty's brave and faithful Subjects, but gave up their King and Country into the Bargain; for it was then in their Power to have reſtored the King with Triumph to his Throne, and thereby to have made us a happy People. We had repuls'd our Enemies at every Attack, and were ready, willing and able to have Attack'd them on our Side? even our Common Men were Brave, Couragious and Reſolute; on the other hand, theirs were directly the Contrary

trary, insomuch that after they had run away from our first Fire, they could never be brought so much as to endeavour to stand a second. This I think myself oblig'd in Justice to mention, that Mr. Wills may not impose upon the World, as if he and his Troops had conquer'd us and gained the Victory; for the truth is, after we had Conquer'd them, our superiors thought fit to Capitulate and ruin us. I wish them Gods and the King's Pardon for it.

May it please the Almighty to Bless, Preserve, and Restore our only Rightful and Lawful King ———, may he direct his Councils and prosper his Arms; may he bring him to his Kingdoms, and set the Crown upon his Head; may he protect him from the Malice of his Enemies, and defend him from those who for a Reward, would slay him innocent; may he grant him in Health and Wealth long to live; may he strengthen him, that he may vanquish and overcome all his Enemies; and finally, when it pleases his Infinite Wisdom to take him out of this World, may he take him to himself, and reward him with an everlasting Crown of Glory in the next.

These my beloved Countrymen are the sincere Prayers, these the last Words of me who am now a dying Person: And if you have any Regard to the last Breath of one who is just going out of the World, let me beg of you to be Dutiful, Obedient and Loyal to Your only Sovereign Liege Lord --- be ever ready to serve Him and be sure you never fail to use all Your Endeavours to restore Him: and whatever the Consequence be remember that you have a good Cause and a gracious God and expect a Recompence from Him.

To that God the God of Truth and Holiness, the Rewarder of all who suffer for Righteousness sake I comend my Soul beseeching Him to have Mercy upon it for the sake of my dear Redeemer and merciful Saviour Jesus Christ our Lord Amen Amen Amen.

July 13. 1716. JOHN HALL.

FINIS.